

Joan Timeche

Executive Director, University of Arizona, Native Nations Institute



Joan Timeche is a citizen of the Hopi Tribe from the village of Old Oraibi. She has been the Executive Director of the Native Nations Institute since 2009, which support Native nations in strengthening Indigenous governance; and has a small consulting business. Timeche holds a BS in Social Work and MBA, both from Northern Arizona University. She served eight years each as NNI's Assistant Director; as Program Director of Northern Arizona University's Center for American Indian Economic Development where she provided business and economic development services and education to Arizona tribes; and as Director of the Hopi Tribe's Education Department overseeing pre-Kindergarten to higher education programs. She is a founding member and served as board member/officer of the Arizona Native American Economic Coalition, Arizona American Indian Tourism Association, and American Indian/Alaska Native Tourism Association. Timeche currently serves as board member for the Economic Development Authority of the Tohono O'odham Nation, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, and the Native Women Lead. She authored "Doing Business on Arizona Indian Lands;" founded the Native American Youth Entrepreneur Camp to introduce entrepreneurship to Native youth; directed NNI's Native American Youth Governance Camp and is a regular speaker at both regional/national conferences.